

Minerals Management Service (MMS) – Alaska Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Region
9th Information Transfer Meeting (ITM): March 10-12, 2003
Sheraton Anchorage Hotel

Agenda

Monday, March 10, 2003

8:00 am Registration

8:45 am **Minerals Management Service Introduction**

Welcome to the ITM and the Alaska Environmental Studies Program

Cleve Cowles, Ph.D, Chief, Environmental Studies Section, Minerals Management Service, Alaska Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Region

Alaska OCS Region Activities and Environmental Assessment Processes

Mr. Paul Stang, Regional Supervisor for Leasing and Environment, MMS, Alaska OCS Region

Questions and Answers of MMS speakers

Physical Oceanography

MMS Session Chair: Ms. Kate Wedemeyer

9:15 am **Water and Ice Dynamics in Cook Inlet**

Mark Johnson, Ph.D., School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)

Measurements of Temperature, Salinity, and Circulation in Cook Inlet, Alaska

Steve Okkonen, Ph.D., Institute of Marine Sciences, UAF

9:45 am **Break**

10:00 am **Synthesis and Collection of Meteorological Data in the Nearshore Beaufort Sea**

Steve Mackey, Hoefler Consulting Group

10:30 am **A GIS-Based Alaska Sea Ice Atlas**

Orson Smith, Ph.D. and William J. Lee, UAA School of Engineering

11:00 am **Beaufort Nearshore Under-Ice Currents**

Tom Weingartner, Ph.D., Institute of Marine Science, UAF, *Presented by Steve Okkonen, Ph.D.*

11:30 am **Summary of Workshop on Physical Oceanography in the Beaufort Sea**

Tom Weingartner, Ph.D., Institute of Marine Science, UAF, *Presented by Steve Okkonen, Ph.D.*

11:45 am **Lunch**

Arctic Nearshore Impact Monitoring in Development Area (ANIMIDA)

MMS Session Chair: Richard Prentki, Ph.D.

- 1:00 pm **ANIMIDA Introduction to a Multi-Year Monitoring Program in the Nearshore Beaufort Sea**
Paul Boehm, Ph.D., Battelle, Coastal Resources and Environmental Management
- 1:15 pm **ANIMIDA Subtopic: Hydrocarbon Chemistry of Sediments and Biota in the Nearshore Beaufort Sea**
Mr. John Brown , Battelle, Coastal Resources and Environmental Management
- 1:45 pm **ANIMIDA Subtopic: Sources, Concentrations, and Dispersion Pathways for Suspended Sediment**
John Trefry, Ph.D., Division of Marine and Environmental Systems, Oceanography Program, Florida Institute of Technology
- 2:15 pm **ANIMIDA Subtopic: Partitioning of Potential Contaminants Between Dissolved and Particulate Phases**
Robert Rember, Ph.D., Division of Marine and Environmental Systems, Oceanography Program, Florida Institute of Technology
- 2:45 pm **ANIMIDA Subtopic: Linking Water Turbidity and TSS Loading to Kelp Productivity within the Stefansson Sound Boulder Patch**
Ken Dunton, Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, Marine Science Institute
- 3:15 pm **Break**
- 3:30 pm **ANIMIDA Subtopic: Baseline Characterization of Anthropogenic Contaminants in Biota Associated with the Alaska OCS Liberty and Northstar Oil and Gas Production Units in the Nearshore Beaufort Sea**
Bob Spies, Ph.D., Applied Marine Sciences
- * **ANIMIDA Subtopic: Annual Assessment of Subsistence Whaling Near Cross Island**
*(*For presentation time see Social Science and Economics discipline section on day 3)*

Fate and Effects

MMS Session Chair: Richard Prentki, Ph.D.

- 4:00 pm **A Nowcast/Forecast Model for the Beaufort Sea Ice-Ocean-Oil Spill System: Model D Development and Validation**
Jia Wang, Ph.D., International Arctic Research Center, Frontier Research System for Global Change, UAF
- 4:30 pm **Workshop on Sea Ice Circulation/Interaction Modeling for Nearshore Beaufort and Chukchi Sea**
Jia Wang, Ph.D., International Arctic Research Center, Frontier Research System for Global Change, UAF
- 4:45 pm **End of Day One**

Tuesday, March 11, 2003

Fate And Effects (continued)

8:00 am Registration

MMS Session Chair: Mr. Richard Newman

8:30 am **Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Classification for the Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea Coasts**
Ed Owens, Polaris Applied Sciences, Inc.

9:00 am **Petroleum Hydrocarbon Degrading Microbial Communities in Chukchi-Beaufort Sea Sediments**
Joan Braddock, Ph.D., Institute of Arctic Biology, UAF

9:30 am **Trace Metals and Hydrocarbons in Sediments of Elson Lagoon (Barrow, Northwest Arctic Alaska) as Related to Prudhoe Bay Industrial Region**
Sathy Naidu, Ph.D., Institute of Marine Science, UAF and M. Indira Venkatesan, Ph.D., Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, University of California at Los Angeles

10:00 am **Break**

Biology

MMS Session Chair: Charles Monnett, Ph.D.

10:15 am **Recently Initiated Coastal Marine Institute Biological/Ecological Studies:**

- **Role of Grazers on the Recolonization of Hard-Bottom Communities in the Alaska Beaufort**
- **Susceptibility of Sea Ice Biota to Disturbances in the Shallow Beaufort Sea, Phase I: Biological Coupling of Sea Ice with Pelagic and Benthic Realms**
- **King and Common Eider Migrations Past Point Barrow**
- **Population Structure of Common Eiders Nesting on Coastal Barrier Islands Adjacent to Oil Facilities in the Beaufort Sea**
- **Breeding Biology and Habitat Use of King Eiders on the Coastal Plain of Northern Alaska**

Vera Alexander, Ph.D., Director, Coastal Marine Institute, UAF

10:45 am **Modeling Recovery Rates for Avian Populations**
James Barry Grand, Ph.D., Alabama Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, Auburn University

Protected Species

MMS Session Chair: Charles Monnett, Ph.D.

11:15 am **Monitoring Beaufort Sea Waterfowl and Marine Birds**
Paul Flint, Ph.D., U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Biological Resources Division

11:45 am **Lunch**

1:00 pm **Importance of the Alaskan Beaufort Sea to King Eiders (*Somateria spectabilis*)**
Abby Powell, Ph.D., Institute of Arctic Biology, UAF

- 1:30 pm **Monitoring the Distribution of Arctic Whales**
Mr. Steve Treacy, MMS, Alaska
- 2:00 pm **Bowhead Whale Feeding in the Eastern Alaskan Beaufort Sea: Update of Scientific and Traditional Information**
W. John Richardson, Ph.D., LGL Ltd., environmental research associates
- 2:30 pm **Reference Manual and GIS Geospatial Database of Oil-Industry and Other Human Activity (1979-1998) in the Beaufort Sea**
Mr. Peter Wainwright, LGL Ltd., *Presented by W. John Richardson, Ph.D.*
- Analysis of Covariance of Human Activities and Sea Ice in Relation to Fall Migrations of Bowhead Whales**
W. John Richardson, Ph.D., LGL Ltd.
- 3:00 pm **Break**
- MMS Session Chair: Mr. Steve Treacy
- 3:15 pm **Behavior of Ringed Seals and Reinterpretation of Aerial Surveys**
Oriana Harding, Biology Program University of Alaska Southeast
- 3:45 pm **Detecting Polar Bears with Forward Looking Infra-Red Radar**
Steve Amstrup, Ph.D., USGS, Biological Resources Division,
- 4:15 pm **Use of Sea Ice Habitat by Female Polar Bears in the Beaufort Sea**
George M. Durner (and Steve Amstrup, Ph.D.), USGS, Biological Resources Division
- 4:45 pm **End of Day Two**

Wednesday, March 12

Protected Species (continued)

- 7:30 am Registration
- MMS Session Chair: Mr. Steve Treacy
- 8:00 am **Satellite Tracking of Eastern Chukchi Sea Beluga Whales in the Beaufort Sea and Arctic Ocean**
Robert Suydam, Ph.D., North Slope Borough, Department of Wildlife Management
- 8:30 am **USGS Alaska Tissue Archival Project: an Update on FY02 Activities**
Geoff York, USGS, Biological Resources Division
- 9:00 am **Demography and Behavior of Polar Bears Feeding on Stranded Marine Mammal Carcasses**
Ms. Susi Kalxdorff, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 9:30 am **Break**

Social Science and Economics

MMS Session Chair: Dee Williams, Ph.D.

- 9:45 am **Book/Synthesis of Information on Socioeconomic Effects of Oil and Gas Activities in Alaska**
Mr. Stephen R. Braund, Stephen R. Braund & Associates
- 10:15 am **A Description of Potential Impacts of OCS Activities on Bowhead Whale Hunting Activities in the Beaufort Sea**
Michael Downs, Ph.D., and John Russell, Ph.D., EDAW, Inc.
- 10:45 am **Subsistence Mapping at Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, and Barrow**
Mr. Stephen R. Braund, Stephen R. Braund & Associates

MMS Session Chair: Mr. Tim Holder

- 11:15 am **Arctic Nearshore Impact Monitoring in Development Area (ANIMIDA) Subtopic: Annual Assessment of Subsistence Bowhead Whaling Near Cross Island (*see day 1 for other ANIMIDA subtopics*)**
Mr. Michael Galginaitis, Applied Sociocultural Research
- 11:45 am **North Slope Borough Economy, 1965 to Present**
Mr. Pat Burden and Leah Cuyno, Ph.D., Northern Economics Inc.
- 12:15 pm **Lunch**

Other

MMS Session Chair: Mr. Warren Horowitz

- 1:30 pm **Oil Spills Occurrence in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas: Fault-Tree Approach**
Frank Bercha, Ph.D., Bercha Group
- 2:00 pm **MMS North Slope Pipeline GIS**
Mr. John Eldred, Michael Baker, Jr. Inc.
- 2:30 pm **End of meeting**

It is respectfully requested that individual questions to presenters be brief and concise in order to assure time for other's questions during the question and answer periods.